



Pursuant to A.R.S. § 38-431.02, notice is hereby given to the members of the Mayor and Council Transit Task Force and to the general public that the Mayor and Council Transit Task Force will hold the following meeting which will be open to the public.

Mayor and Council Transit Task Force MINUTES

Monday, October 5, 2015, 4:00 p.m.

Location 201 N. Stone, 6th Floor, Public Works Building
Tucson, AZ 85701

1. Call to Order

Meeting was called to order at 4:08 p.m. with six (6) of the eleven (11) members present which established a quorum.

2. Introductions / Roll Call

Members Present: Eugene Caywood, Chair (Ward 5)
Suzanne Schafer, Vice Chair (Ward 3)
Linda Dobbryn (CTAC)
Margot Garcia, (Ward 6)
Sami Hamed (CTAC)
Brian Flagg (Ward 2)
David Heineking, U of A Advisory Member

Members Absent: Michael Wall (Mayor)
Peggy Hutchison (Ward 1)
Vacant (Ward 4)
Vacant (CTAC)
Vacant (CTAC)

Staff Present: Jeremy Papuga, Transit Administrator
Carlos de Leon, Deputy Director of Transportation
Kate Riley, General Manager of Sun Tran/Sun Van
Jared Forte, Assistant General Manager of Sun Tran/Sun Van
Davita Mueller, Sun Tran Planning Analyst

3. Approval of July 13, 2015 Minutes

Motion: *A motion was made to approve the minutes as submitted.*

Seconded

Motion Passed: *Unanimously*

4. Call to the Audience

Jim Thomas – Mr. Thomas stated that we lost one of the most important things during the bus strike and that was electronic communication. When a new bus route was added, the electronic screens were not working so there was no information on how long a wait there was, etc. However, monitors at the Ronstadt Transit Center were working and advertising new product.

Allen Benz – Mr. Benz said that when the mobile app is downloaded on a smart phone, Fare Enforcement people can access it but the Sun Tran drivers cannot access the information.

5. Update on Transit/Announcements

Jeremy Papuga stated that the Ronstadt Transit Center redevelopment selection committee will be meeting in October to make their recommendation to Mayor and Council.

The Pima Association of Governments (PAG) 2045 Regional Transportation Plan (TRP) recommended a project list which will be on the Transportation Planning Committee agenda for their approval at their October meeting. Public comment will be in the month of November. The first one will be at Randolph Golf Center on November 4, November 9 at Wheeler Taft Library, Marana, and the Green Valley Library on November 11. The draft plan will also be posted online.

The Transit Visioning Process is wrapping up. The information gathered with the Jarrett Walker process will be included in the PAG Regional Transportation Plan. It will be part of the long-range process.

ADOT is conducting an inter-city rail study. Public hearings were held in September. The draft is available for review on the ADOT website.

Jared Fortner commented on the mobile payment app. The app went live on June 15, 2015. So far 5,252 different passes have been downloaded.

Mr. Papuga stated that the February 2016 service changes are on hold due to the recent bus strike.

6. CTAC Committee Restructuring

Carlos de Leon gave a presentation on the Citizens Transportation Advisory Committee (CTAC). He talked about the history of the committee and the reasons it has not met in over three years. Mr. de Leon offered some proposals for restructuring the committee.

Discussion followed.

Motion: *A motion was made to continue the discussion on the CTAC until the next meeting.*

Seconded

Motion Passed: *Unanimously*

7. Mayor and Council October 8 Study Session

Mr. Papuga stated that he thought he would have information regarding Sun Tran for the Mayor and Council Study Session on October 8, but he has not received any information to share with the TTF as yet.

Gene Caywood offered his seven points for “Advice on Sun Tran Management and Funding” as follows:

- 1. Don’t get caught in the 1950’s vicious cycle of a strike necessitating higher fares and reduced service, which reduces ridership, which results in less revenue, which in turn causes another strike starting the cycle over again.*
- 2. Changing governance will not prevent a future strike.*
- 3. Changing governance will not resolve funding issues.*
- 4. The real issue is finding a dedicated funding source. Without it, any transfer of governance would still require substantial funding from the City’s General Fund.*
- 5. Any dedicated funding source must be accompanied with a concentrated effort to restrain costs from rising faster than inflation.*
- 6. Don’t be too hasty to change the system of management through a hired management firm that has worked for us since 1969, and produced an award winning transit system.*
- 7. There is no guarantee an RTA or RPTA would manage the system by hiring in house vs. using a management firm.*

Discussion followed.

Motion: *A motion was made that the TTF endorse the Seven Points presented by Gene Caywood and present them in writing to the Mayor and Council at the October 8 Study Session.*

Seconded

Motion Passed: *Four to two*

8. Call to the Audience

Allen Benz – Expressed his concern upon witnessing 10 to 12 students board the street car without validating their card. He notified the fare enforcer. He said they may have

had the money on their mobile app, but without validating that, the City gets an inaccurate count of ridership.

9. Next meeting date and time/Meeting schedule

The next meeting will be on Monday, November 2, 2015 at 4:00 p.m.

10. Agenda items upcoming meeting

Items suggested for the next Agenda included Transit Task Force By-Laws, more discussion on the JWA Transit Choices Report Recommendations,

11. Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 6:10 p.m.